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C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIJING 017497

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DEPARTMENT FOR AF, IO
USUN FOR PHEE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/22/2016
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [KPKO](#) [SU](#) [CH](#)
SUBJECT: PRC/SUDAN: CHINA EMPHASIZES NEED FOR KHARTOUM'S
CONSENT PRIOR TO DARFUR MISSION

REF: USUN 1599

CLASSIFIED BY: POLITICAL EXTERNAL UNIT CHIEF EDGARD KAGAN. REASONS 1.4
(B/D).

¶1. (C) SUMMARY: AN MFA OFFICIAL TOLD US THE PRC SUPPORTS REHATTING THE AFRICAN UNION MISSION IN SUDAN (AMIS) PEACEKEEPERS BUT CONTINUES TO STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF SUDANESE GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY (GNU) CONSENT TO SUCH AN OPERATION. BEIJING BELIEVES SUCH CONSENT IS NECESSARY PRIOR TO PROCEEDING WITH A RESOLUTION AND CLAIMS TO HAVE INSTRUCTED ITS EMBASSY IN KHARTOUM TO PUSH THE GNU TO AGREE. THE PRC WILL NOT SUPPORT A "HASTY" RESOLUTION AND WANTS TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER THE AUGUST 28 MEETING ON SUDAN AT THE UN. THE PRC MAY BE ABLE TO SHOW FLEXIBILITY ON TIMING AND MANDATE IF ITS CONCERNS ABOUT GNU CONSENT ARE ADDRESSED AND HOPES THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL TAKE ITS VIEWS INTO ACCOUNT DESPITE THE FACT THAT BEIJING IS NOT THREATENING A VETO. STRESSING U.S. OBJECTION TO A GNU VETO OVER THE PROCESS, WE STRESSED THE NEED TO MOVE FORWARD QUICKLY TO ADDRESS THE VERY REAL HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN DARFUR. END SUMMARY.

¶2. (C) CHINA SUPPORTS A UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE UNITED NATIONS TO RE-HAT AFRICAN UNION MISSION IN SUDAN (AMIS) PEACEKEEPERS. MFA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEPARTMENT UN DIVISION DIRECTOR YANG TAO APPROACHED POLOFF ON THE MARGINS OF AN AUGUST 22 MEETING ON A DIFFERENT TOPIC TO SAY THAT BEIJING CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT SUDANESE GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY (GNU) CONSENT IS NECESSARY PRIOR TO A UNSC RESOLUTION ON REHATTING AND WILL NOT SUPPORT A "HASTY" RESOLUTION. NOTING U.S. AND UK DESIRE TO FINALIZE A DRAFT RESOLUTION ON AUGUST 25, YANG SAID THAT BEIJING CANNOT SUPPORT SUCH A MOVE IN LIGHT OF THE UPCOMING AUGUST 28 MEETING ON SUDAN.

¶3. (C) YANG SAID THE PRC RECOGNIZES U.S. OBJECTIONS TO REFERRING TO THE NEED FOR GNU CONSENT IN THE RESOLUTION TEXT. SECURING SUCH GNU CONSENT PRIOR TO MOVING FORWARD IS "VERY IMPORTANT" TO CHINA, HE SAID, WHILE STRESSING THAT THE PRC HAS INSTRUCTED ITS EMBASSY IN KHARTOUM TO PUSH THE GNU TO GIVE ITS CONSENT. IN CHINA'S VIEW, TIMING (OCTOBER 1) AND AUTHORITY (CHAPTER VII) ARE IMPORTANT, BUT YANG INDICATED THAT CHINA MIGHT BE ABLE TO SHOW FLEXIBILITY ON THESE ISSUES SO LONG AS THE GNU HAS CONSENTED TO A UNPKO.

¶4. (C) NOTING U.S. OBJECTION TO LANGUAGE REQUIRING GNU CONSENT IN A DRAFT RESOLUTION, YANG SAID THAT THE LANGUAGE IS LESS IMPORTANT THAN GETTING THE CONSENT, WHICH THE PRC BELIEVES THE GNU WILL EVENTUALLY PROVIDE. CHINA BELIEVES THAT MANY AFRICAN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING UNSC MEMBERS, WILL NOT

SUPPORT A RESOLUTION WITHOUT GNU CONSENT, HE NOTED. YANG SAID THE PRC WANTS TO AVOID A DISAGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES ON SUDAN, COMMENTING THAT BEIJING CONSIDERS THE ISSUE SECONDARY TO ADDRESSING IRANIAN AND NORTH KOREAN NUCLEAR PROGRAMS. HE SAID THAT THE PRC HOPES THE UNITED STATES WILL TAKE ITS CONCERNS INTO ACCOUNT DESPITE THE FACT THAT IT IS NOT THREATENING A VETO.

15. (C) POLOFF STRESSED THAT THE UNITED STATES SEEKS TO ADOPT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE A UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION THAT WILL AUTHORIZE A UN-AMIS TRANSITION NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1. THE UNITED STATES LOOKS FORWARD TO CHINA'S SUPPORT AND HOPES CHINA WILL EXERT ITS INFLUENCE TO GET SUDAN TO DROP HIS OBJECTIONS TO THE RESOLUTION. THE UN PEACEKEEPING MISSION NEEDS A ROBUST MANDATE TO STOP THE GRAVE AND DETERIORATING HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN DARFUR AND SUDAN SHOULD NOT HAVE A VETO ON INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO SUPPORT REGIONAL STABILITY AND PROTECT INNOCENT LIVES.
SEDNEY